



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1898-02-23

Letter from C[harles] S[prague] Sargent to John Muir, 1898 Feb 23.

Charles Sprague Sargent

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ARNOLD ARBORETUM,
HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

Jamaica Plain, Mass.,.....February 23,.....1898.

My dear Muir:

I am pegging away very constantly at The Silva with very little enjoyment to myself but with the hope that the job will be off my hands by the end of this year.

Last week I went to Ottawa,† passed a day there talking to explorers who spend their summers in Labrador and the valley of the lower Mackenzie River and such other out-of-the-way parts of the world. The Canadian winter with its cold dry snow and brilliant sunshine I found delightful. Next month I must go to Florida to look for one or two troublesome Palm trees which have heretofore escaped me and I hope that Canby will go with me.

I have written to Miss Eastwood that I must have the flowers of *Abies magnifica* this year and that, if necessary, she could confer with you as to the best way of getting them. I do not suppose that people who are interested in California like you and Miss Eastwood are going to consent to the appearance of a plate representing *Abies magnifica* without the flowers and I count on getting them somehow or other. If Miss Eastwood cannot go, and there is no one nearer than San Francisco who knows enough about trees to know what the flowers of an *Abies* look like, I wish you would find some young man and send him into the mountains to get this material. I will gladly pay his ex-

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penses and something for his trouble, as the flowers we certainly must have. I should like them, of course, both of the Shasta and the ordinary form, but if only one kind can be got, then those from the central part of the Sierra are the most important. This is the very last call and it is really a matter of much importance to me, so I know I can depend on your doing what you can to help me.

I haven't heard a word from Johnson all winter, or from Hague or Pinchot, or any one else connected with forestry. Evidently we are not progressive enough to suit the present administration which seems to be devoting a good deal of surplus energy in endeavoring to prove that sheep really benefit a forest. We must, however, think of muggins and make up our mind not to be beaten.

My daughter is at last well.

Faithfully yours,

C. S. Sargent

John Muir, Esq.
Martinez, Cal.

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